

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2003
IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED
- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

ARKANSAS	- Soybean, light amber, \$1.44
CALIFORNIA	- Buckwheat, extra light amber, \$1.35 (small lot) - Cotton/Alfalfa, light amber, \$1.30-1.35 - Mixed Flowers, light amber, \$1.20 (small lot) - Mixed Flowers, dark amber, 85¢
FLORIDA	- Brazilian Pepper, light amber, \$1.45 - Gallberry, extra light amber, \$1.05 - Mixed Flowers, light amber, \$1.35 (sm. lot/prev. commitment) - Orange Blossom, extra light amber, \$1.10 - 1.60 (higher price, prev. commitment) - Saw Palmetto, extra light amber, \$1.55 (prev. commitment) - Saw Palmetto, light amber, \$1.55 - Wildflower, light amber, \$1.50 - Cut Comb, Gallberry, \$1.40 (prev. commitment)
IDAHO	- Alfalfa, white, \$1.50 - Clover, light amber, \$1.25 (small lot)
MICHIGAN	- Floral not reported, light amber, \$1.50
MONTANA	- Clover, white, \$1.50
NORTH DAKOTA	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, \$1.36 - Clover, white, \$1.60 - Clover, extra light amber, \$1.55

SOUTH DAKOTA - Clover, white, \$1.60

UTAH - Floral not reported, white, \$1.50 - 1.60

WASHINGTON - Alfalfa, amber, \$1.00
 - Knapweed, white, \$1.50 (small lot)
 - Mixed flowers, light amber, \$1.25 (small lot)
 - Mixed Flowers, dark amber, 80¢ - \$1.20 (small lots)
 - Mixed Flowers, amber, \$1.30 (small lot)

WYOMING - Clover, white, \$1.50

Prices paid to Canadian beekeepers for unprocessed bulk honey by packers & importers in U.S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty & crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

None reported

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

EAST COAST...BRAZIL - Mixed Flowers, light amber, \$1.32
 HUNGARY - Floral Not Reported, extra light amber, \$1.45
 INDIA - Mixed Flowers, light amber, \$1.25

WEST COAST...CHINA - Acacia, white, \$1.10
 - Acacia, light amber, \$1.25
 - Mixed Flowers, white, \$1.25
 MEXICO - Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, \$1.27

COLONY, HONEY PLANT & MARKET CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT – (MD, PA, VA, WV) ♥♥♥♥

January's weather averaged much colder than normal with above average precipitation. Beekeepers are busy attending industry meetings and preparing equipment for the upcoming season.

CALIFORNIA ♥♥♥♥

By New Year's Eve, the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snowpack contained an average of 16" of liquid (140% of the year-end normal), up from 4" (about 90% or normal) on December 1st. December rainfall in Eureka was recorded at 23.31" or 367% of normal.

CALIFORNIA continued...

Weather conditions varied from the extreme northern part of the state to all areas south right from the start of January. On the 4th, the valley around Los Angeles was recording record highs when temperatures rose into the upper 80's. At the same time, a Pacific Storm was bringing heavy rains to the northern mountains. The next week, Santa Ana winds reached 100 mph around the San Francisco Bay with daytime highs mostly in the 60's and the area just north of the border was still setting records when they recorded record highs in the upper 70's. Redding collected 1.49" of rain on the 12th but then the region turned warm and dry. On the 13th, Sacramento registered a record high of 65 degrees and the San Diego area also set a record when they reached 83 degrees on the 17th. January ended where it started with record highs in the south and sporadic precipitation in the north. In Los Angeles, from the 1st to the 26th, only a trace of precipitation fell, leaving the city headed towards only its fourth January without measurable precipitation.

The bees are reported to be in very good condition as they were being moved into the almonds the end of January. Colonies were checked for size before they were moved and will be looked at again as they begin pollination. Some almonds are expected to begin blooming a little early of the mild weather. There is good demand by almond growers again this year with rental fees about the same as last year. There are several reports of bees being stolen from their winter locations during January. Local beekeepers speculated the thieves probably need the bees to fulfill their pollination contracts. Earlier in January, bees were set in locations along the coast where they were getting food from acacia, mustard and eucalyptus.

Packers reported their honey sales are about normal for this time of year but it has become difficult to purchase any large lots. Some packers bought quite a bit of honey when prices started going up and now have a surplus in their own warehouses. Prices continue to be high as there is very little white honey available in the U.S. and because of the shortages, Argentina has raised their prices.

COLORADO ♥♥♥♥

Temperatures for the month were generally above normal, with daytime highs in the Denver area reaching the mid-60s. The lows were in the mid to upper 20s. Most of the state continues below normal in precipitation. Only the mountains in Northern Colorado received any moisture in the form of snow during this period. The remainder of the state including the plains and the southern mountains have not received any measurable moisture for the last few months. The state is bracing for worst drought conditions then we had in the spring and summer of 2002, which was the worst on record.

Some cleansing flights were evident during the mild days, but beekeepers continue to provide supplemental feed for their colonies as the very dry conditions continue. Migratory colonies are reported to be in good shape at this time.

GEORGIA ♥♥♥♥

Colonies around the state were in good condition. Colder than normal temperatures have reduced feeding of stored food resulting in less than normal winter mortality. Bees were clustering in hives to produce heat during the month. There was very little activity occurring in the beekeeping industry in January.

IDAHO ♥♥♥♥

Most hives have been moved to California to await the start of the almond blooms. Honey movement on both the wholesale and retail levels was fairly light due mostly to the asking prices at the retail level. The average temperature in Idaho was 34.2 degrees which was 9.8 degrees above normal. For the month, the daily average temperature was above normal 30 of the 31 days. Only .40" of precipitation was recorded for the month. The average precipitation for the month of January is 1.14".

ILLINOIS ♥♥♥♥

The first of the month temperatures were generally in the thirties for daytime highs in southern sections and in the twenties in northern sections. Low temperatures were in the mid-twenties south while teens to low twenties were reported in the north. Precipitation, in the form of snowfall, was reported generally below normal in northern regions and about normal in southern regions. The 2nd and 22nd of the month, most areas of southern Illinois had three and a half to four inches of snowfall. The northern section had four to eight inches by the mid-point of the month. Beekeepers were attending local meetings and repairing bee equipment throughout the month.

Retail demand for bottled honey was moderate and bulk honey demand was also reported to be moderate.

INDIANA ♥♥♥♥

Beekeepers reported honeybees were overwintering well. Weather conditions with cold temperatures and some snowfall hampered cleansing flights. While above normal temperatures had been the norm the last two winters, temperature ranges have returned to normal this winter. Temperatures ranged in the low 20's to mid 30's the first few days of the month. The 17th, temperatures dipped to zero in southern Indiana and below zero in the northern section. On the 24th, a low temperature of minus three degrees was in Evansville in the southern section of the state. Snowfall was below normal in southern sections while northern section had several lake effect snowstorms.

Retail honey movement was reported moderate Bulk movement was also reported moderate. Prices being offered by packers remained about the same.

MISSISSIPPI ♥♥♥♥

Colonies around the state were in good condition. Colder than normal temperatures have reduced feeding of stored food resulting in less than normal winter mortality. Bees were clustering in hives to produce heat during the month. There was very little activity occurring in the beekeeping industry in January.

MISSOURI & IOWA ♥♥♥♥

The weather during January was very cold except for a few warm days. The bees were barely able to fly, mostly due to the frigid temperatures. In Iowa, there are basically no bees there for the winter. The range in Missouri has been dry. The weather was cold, but there were still a few warm days for bees to take cleansing flights. The bees are projected to incur minimal losses due to the weather conditions. The colonies are in very good shape considering the weather conditions. The bees are expected to come through winter in good shape so they should be able to produce a good honey crop.

MONTANA ♥♥♥♥

Most of the State continues to be very dry as little precipitation fell during January. Many areas of the state have received less than 50% of their normal precipitation. The southwest quarter of Montana is doing a little better than the rest of the state as West Glacier accumulated almost 3.5" during the month. Bozeman also set a daily-record on the 14th when they measured .71". At the end of January, soil moisture was rated at 25% very short and 46% short.

Migratory beekeepers went to California the end of January to move their bees from winter holding yards into the almond orchards. The bees are reported to be in good condition as the weather warmed up and they were able to bring in pollen from a few wildflowers that were beginning to bloom. Beekeepers always take a good supply of supplemental feed with them to California to put on before the bees are moved into the almonds. This year, very little of the feed was needed as the colonies were strong with good cluster size. Some Montana beekeepers had their bees stolen in California.

NORTH CAROLINA ♥♥♥

The month of January was colder than normal, with good amount of precipitation received in most areas. Several snow storms across the state were welcome due to the drought that North Carolina has experienced the last several years. Some of the coastal areas received as much as 10 inches of snow. For the first time in two years, some areas are easing mandatory water restrictions, due to rising lake levels. Apiary activity was slow during the month of January. Beekeepers continued their supplemental feeding and checking the colonies for Varroa Mites.

OREGON ♥♥♥

The unseasonably mild conditions continued into January. On the 6th, Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia River, set a record when their daily high temperature was 63 degrees. Other areas across the state also had high temperatures which were as much as 13 degrees above normal in Portland and 21 degrees in Hermiston on the 26th. Total precipitation in Portland during January was 7.44", much more than the normal rainfall of 5.07". Many areas of Eastern Washington also had precipitation over 100% or normal.

Many beekeepers spent long hours getting their hives into the almond orchards. The bloom is expected to be more than a week ahead of schedule. Beekeepers that keep their bees in the state were occasionally forced to move their hives to higher locations as more than 3.5" of rain fell on the 29th to the 31st.

UTAH ♥♥♥

Most hives have been moved to California to await the state of the almond bloom. Honey movement on both the wholesale and retail levels were fairly light due mostly to the asking prices at the retail level. The weather in Utah has been unseasonably warm and precipitation has been well below normal.

WASHINGTON ♥♥♥

Across the State, conditions were unseasonably warm and wet. The month began with a Pacific storm that brought heavy rains to the coast and snowfall to the Cascade Mountains and eventually significant moisture to the Eastern half of the State. Strong winds frequently accompanied the storms. By the 31st, Seattle's average temperature for the month was 45.7 degrees or 4.8 degrees above normal and precipitation was 164% of normal. In Spokane, the average temperature was almost 40 degrees or 6.6% above normal and rainfall was 187% of normal. The rain was especially heavy the last two days of January and some flooding was reported. The rain and warm temperatures also melted a lot of the snowpack in the mountains that will be needed later for irrigation water.

In Western Washington, the warm temperatures allowed several days for cleansing flights where the bees were also able to gather pollen from pussywillows and flowering cherry trees. As beekeepers did their usual winter inspections, they found frames full of bees.

Migratory beekeepers were busy moving their bees into the almonds for pollination as the bloom appears to be running about 10 days ahead of normal. All hives were opened and checked for size and strength before they were moved. Any colonies that appeared to be a little light were taken home and given additional feed. Some report they are still receiving calls from almond growers looking for bees to rent for pollination so there could be a shortage this year.

WISCONSIN ♥♥♥

The weather for the month was unfavorable for beekeepers to check the condition of honeybees overwintering in Wisconsin. Precipitation for the month was below normal while temperatures were generally colder than average. Beekeepers had hoped weather forecaster's were correct in their prediction of warmer temperatures the 31st of January through February 3rd weekend. Bees had no cleansing flights during month. Most

WISCONSIN continued...

beekeepers have continued supplemental feeding of sugar syrup or candy boards. Beekeeper activities were limited to repairing and cleaning equipment.

Retail honey movement was moderate while bulk honey and wax movement was slow.

U. S. EXPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, QUANTITY & VALUE

	NOVEMBER 2002		YEAR TO DATE 2002	
	QUANTITY	VALUE	QUANTITY	VALUE
	Kilograms	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars
COMB HONEY & HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE				
Mexico	---	---	40,661	53,327
Bermuda	776	3,044	2,364	10,289
Cayman Islands	---	---	1,500	3,480
Barbados	922	2,845	2,012	5,720
N. Antilles	---	---	5,188	17,642
Surinam	---	---	844	2,646
United Kingdom	---	---	18,659	42,250
Netherlands	---	---	1,843	9,202
Belgium	---	---	3,736	4,900
France	---	---	1,996	9,083
Germany	---	---	30,869	61,014
Kuwait	---	---	135,230	303,933
Saudi Arabia	---	---	171,702	368,861
Qatar	---	---	3,270	9,028
Arab Emirates	17,437	55,596	82,772	242,966
Yemen	19,932	28,600	180,789	381,300
Bahrain	---	---	4,076	11,473
Pakistan	---	---	16,850	16,652
Malaysia	---	---	7,385	9,686
Philippines	8,091	22,295	182,497	401,780
China	---	---	13,791	35,307
Korean Republic	---	---	147,857	193,947
Hong Kong	---	---	2,546	7,280
Taiwan	---	---	6,958	14,681
Japan	---	---	108,986	257,112
TOTAL	47,158	112,380	1,174,375	2,476,559

HONEY, NATURAL, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE				
Canada	56,517	76,666	566,089	1,144,265
Mexico	---	---	221,646	355,467
Costa Rica	---	---	17,145	36,018
Bermuda	---	---	2,022	6,080
Bahamas	600	2,655	1,539	5,362
Cayman	---	---	2,784	7,755
Barbados	---	---	917	2,845
Aruba	---	---	1,000	3,375
Guadalupe	---	---	6,036	19,255
Sweden	---	---	20,376	35,276
United Kingdom	---	---	128,543	238,120

EXPORTS continued...

Ireland	---	---	287	3,138
France	---	---	2,407	2,968
Germany	---	---	7,768	10,246
Spain	---	---	1,996	5,808
Israel	---	---	1,200	8,724
Yemen	---	6,646	62,759	145,286
Pakistan	---	---	612	3,206
Thailand	---	---	16,329	37,440
Malaysia	5,067	6,646	37,725	81,526
Singapore	1,361	7,050	36,329	114,029
Indonesia	---	---	116,106	263,917
Philippines	---	---	39,935	80,935
China	65,010	89,774	235,588	274,114
Korean Republic	---	---	17,379	62,870
Japan	---	---	56,438	111,929
Australia	---	---	13,426	30,000
TOTAL	128,555	182,791	1,614,381	3,089,954

HONEY, NATURAL, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED ----- FOREIGN MERCHANDISE

Canada	---	---	68,663	114,662
Mexico	---	---	39,562	70,767
Germany	---	---	10,839	10,246
Spain	---	---	132,768	268,098
China	---	---	118,320	123,250
Japan	---	---	597	3,300
TOTAL	---	---	370,749	590,323

U. S. IMPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY, QUANTITY AND VALUE

COUNTRY	NOVEMBER 2002			YEAR TO DATE 2002		
	QUANTITY kilograms	CUSTOMS VALUE dollars	C.I.F. VALUE dollars	QUANTITY kilograms	CUSTOMS VALUE dollars	C.I.F. VALUE dollars
NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE --- WHITE						
Canada	2,011,818	7,038,171	7,067,643	15,081,920	37,783,967	38,018,719
Mexico	172,541	465,973	475,763	1,320,109	3,487,224	3,558,001
Chile	---	---	---	710,781	1,090,958	1,141,107
Brazil	96,120	241,420	256,215	471,183	798,574	854,226
Uruguay	---	---	---	19,722	34,908	58,208
Argentina	1,153,278	2,673,081	2,773,622	4,802,155	9,374,290	9,805,554
Denmark	---	---	---	26,794	61,349	65,392
United Kingdom	---	---	---	26,794	61,349	65,392
Germany	---	---	---	108,688	177,990	185,460
Czech Republic	---	---	---	35,511	53,637	57,374
Hungary	18,025	46,066	47,766	54,025	87,826	92,405
Poland	---	---	---	960	3,492	3,717
Russia	1,569	3,480	3,725	1,569	3,480	3,725
Ukraine	17,954	32,125	35,107	55,716	85,425	93,267
Italy	---	---	---	3,130	18,641	20,061
Romania	---	---	---	115,372	181,499	192,486
Turkey	18,000	34,815	36,540	73,800	137,030	159,135
India	---	---	---	679,818	918,834	1,005,140

IMPORTS continued...

Pakistan	19,000	29,640	31,440	38,000	58,064	62,064
Thailand	---	---	---	985,780	1,188,800	1,272,426
Vietnam	151,850	276,471	296,861	1,412,195	1,916,116	2,089,063
Malaysia	---	---	---	37,700	46,899	53,421
China, Mainland	10,150	19,285	19,825	1,705,326	1,820,863	19,829,907
Hong Kong	---	---	---	74,840	85,626	95,559
Australia	---	---	---	78,880	105,699	107,980
New Zealand	---	---	---	1,950	7,800	8,128
TOTAL	3,689,155	10,883,876	11,069,105	27,920,181	59,573,423	61,012,033

NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - EXTRA LIGHT AMBER

Canada	139,612	433,962	436,384	773,857	1,714,244	1,723,744
Mexico	---	---	---	945,002	1,619,645	1,681,489
Guatemala	---	---	---	20,100	24,657	26,733
Bahamas	---	---	---	9,802	16,799	17,338
Chile	---	---	---	541,055	803,472	834,418
Brazil	57,610	142,450	149,103	668,349	1,114,405	1,178,079
Uruguay	---	---	---	598,367	905,344	935,254
Argentina	383,764	891,634	923,936	777,939	1,686,551	1,754,516
Hungary	---	---	---	18,000	34,380	34,479
Ukraine	---	---	---	18,850	32,981	52,819
Spain	18,900	37,301	39,501	206,820	423,191	432,621
Greece	---	---	---	1,032	4,718	4,861
Bulgaria	18,523	38,700	40,690	18,523	38,700	40,690
Turkey	319,800	651,470	674,370	506,100	1,020,145	1,053,677
India	---	---	---	180,752	286,363	297,175
Pakistan	---	---	---	19,000	25,213	27,713
Thailand	---	---	---	1,909,940	2,234,531	2,462,584
Vietnam	---	---	---	2,671,500	3,031,413	3,215,277
Malaysia	---	---	---	216,920	249,127	281,226
China	---	---	---	1,085,218	1,112,142	1,224,742
Australia	---	---	---	296,480	370,943	398,984
TOTAL	938,209	2,195,517	2,263,984	11,483,606	16,748,964	17,678,419

NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - LIGHT AMBER

Canada	47,599	141,001	143,770	420,710	1,006,190	1,012,944
Mexico	395,260	1,214,751	1,239,328	6,256,494	10,322,913	10,702,451
Guatemala	---	---	---	129,120	204,573	216,317
Jamaica	---	---	---	6,480	19,552	21,052
Peru	158,163	263,746	277,374	274,839	430,298	453,372
Chile	---	---	---	1,309,628	1,899,388	2,009,886
Brazil	681,130	1,594,211	1,652,689	2,230,660	4,072,085	4,282,546
Uruguay	32,688	73,757	77,323	5,157,171	8,069,427	8,391,553
Argentina	535,280	1,318,446	1,353,129	1,439,854	3,160,814	3,262,527
United Kingdom	---	---	---	483	5,932	6,396
France	---	---	---	1,340	6,567	7,058
Germany	35,342	80,806	82,931	232,584	436,062	485,690
Hungary	18,114	49,614	54,467	95,265	205,996	220,588
Switzerland	---	---	---	75,400	117,975	121,078
Ukraine	49,967	108,290	114,894	49,967	108,290	114,894
Moldovia	18,067	45,274	46,974	110,225	201,428	215,041
Spain	540	2,072	2,194	21,420	38,194	39,016
Italy	---	---	---	534	2,010	2,356
Romania	92,160	275,266	287,492	184,897	495,391	515,843
Bulgaria	18,744	34,676	35,409	38,977	61,100	61,835
Turkey	297,600	651,744	683,600	855,900	1,838,437	19,064,427
India	184,080	341,682	365,374	1,371,011	1,901,968	2,081,041

IMPORTS continued...

Burma	---	---	---	93,750	92,625	93,737
Thailand	---	---	---	1,494,768	1,780,391	1,862,169
Vietnam	232,500	333,906	365,300	9,969,945	12,595,525	13,679,897
Malaysia	---	---	---	591,600	696,043	758,073
China	50,460	75,690	83,160	4,453,282	4,380,866	4,739,709
Hong Kong	---	---	---	43,431	76,903	82,471
Taiwan	1,080	2,650	2,823	5,805	13,076	13,782
Australia	---	---	---	1,600,181	2,011,830	2,171,292
New Zealand	---	---	---	600	3,806	3,865
TOTAL	2,848,774	6,607,582	6,868,231	38,516,321	56,255,655	59,534,905

NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE – NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED

Canada	59,540	159,154	159,404	604,283	1,159,771	1,168,605
Mexico	392,665	1,050,257	1,056,907	2,268,458	4,814,973	4,891,776
Dom. Republic	---	---	---	79,191	89,540	95,387
Brazil	288,564	655,035	676,987	1,024,754	1,923,123	2,002,702
Argentina	---	---	---	208,784	290,392	305,070
United Kingdom	---	---	---	1,210	8,243	8,727
France	2,100	4,833	5,181	4,938	22,312	24,948
Germany	53,620	72,694	79,894	143,620	205,749	214,444
Australia	2,495	15,282	16,354	12,241	69,358	74,646
Switzerland	391	2,753	2,807	12,335	86,737	89,845
Poland	---	---	---	1,080	2,634	2,946
Ukraine	17,091	33,358	37,258	17,091	33,358	37,258
Italy	730	3,654	5,364	35,076	84,573	89,126
Greece	---	---	---	835	6,680	7,135
Bulgaria	18,000	45,100	46,800	18,000	45,100	46,800
Turkey	---	---	---	578	3,960	5,099
Israel	---	---	---	860	3,227	3,727
Jordan	1,200	4,950	5,138	1,200	4,950	5,138
India	56,430	84,081	90,081	56,430	84,081	90,081
Bangladesh	---	---	---	504	7,372	9,072
Thailand	---	---	---	19,720	26,961	44,214
Malaysia	---	---	---	98,600	113,681	122,809
China	---	---	---	59,160	49,298	56,903
Hong Kong	---	---	---	3,906	5,147	6,397
Taiwan	---	---	---	7,092	30,669	31,786
Australia	---	---	---	324,880	403,290	430,947
TOTAL	892,826	2,131,151	2,182,175	5,003,826	9,575,179	9,865,588

SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS BUREAU FOREIGN TRADE DIVISION

CANADA HONEY

Production and Trade Update - 2002

Prepared by: George C. Myles - GAIN Report #CA2140 - Date: 12/11/2002

PRODUCTION & TRADE - - -

According to Statistics Canada, Canadian honey production in 2002 reached 33,297 metric tons, 6% below the year earlier revised total of 35,388 metric tons. The decline was caused, in part, by a 3% reduction in the number of colonies and lower yields, particularly across the prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta which experienced a cool spring and a dry summer. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada reports that Canada is the ninth largest honey producer in the world with about 3% of world production in 2000.

CANADIAN HONEY PRODUCTION	# Beekeepers	# Colonies	Production (metric tons)
Average 1997-2001	9,999	574,523	36,193
2001	9,102	602,328	35,388
2002 Prelim.	8,884	585,683	33,297

Source: Statistics Canada

TRADE - IMPORTS - - -

Argentina became the major supplier to the Canadian honey import market in early 2002 following issues related to the detection of chemical residues found in Chinese honey (see Issues Update, below) and a resulting sharp decline in imports from China. U.S. honey exports to Canada showed strong gains in 2002 with sales up 124% in the January to September period of 2002 compared with the same period a year ago.

Canadian Honey Imports by Calendar Year						
With Jan. to Sept. Comparison for 2001 & 2002 - Units: metric tons						
				Jan.-Sept.	Jan.-Sept.	% change
	1999	2000	2001	2001	2002	02/01
--The World--	2,859	2,826	5,210	3,838	5,659	47%
Argentina	69	117	1,054	483	3,604	646%
China	2,201	2,018	3,551	2,908	985	-66%
United States	377	391	292	223	498	124%
Vietnam	0	0	0	0	168	+100%
Australia	5	41	28	15	88	474%
All Others	208	258	286	209	315	51%

Source: World Trade Atlas

TRADE – EXPORTS – –

Canadian exports of honey during the first nine months of 2002 rebounded compared to 2001 when export sales were weaker reflecting, in part, increased honey supplies in the United States, the major export destination for Canadian honey. Canadian exports to the United States have increased following U.S. countervailing duty and anti-dumping actions on honey imports from Argentina and China in 2001.

Canadian Honey Exports by Calendar Year						
With January to September Comparison for 2001 & 2002						
Units: metric tons						
				Jan-Sept	Jan-Sept	% change
	1999	2000	2001	2001	2002	02/01
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-- The World --	14,721	15,297	12,691	7,406	14,376	94%
United States	12,084	12,960	10,564	5,819	12,804	120%
Germany	1,666	1,352	889	658	660	0%
United Kingdom	250	264	321	174	307	77%
Japan	206	301	446	381	268	-30%
China	0	0	0	0	104	+100%
Denmark	142	121	42	0	82	+100%
Ireland	39	0	51	16	42	156%
Venezuela	0	0	39	39	22	-45%
France	122	168	144	130	20	-84%
All Others	213	131	194	189	66	-65%
Source: World Trade Atlas						

ISSUES UPDATE – – Chloramphenicol in Chinese Honey

In April 2002, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) issued a public warning not to consume certain food products manufactured using honey imported from China. The CFIA conducted tests on imported Chinese honey and found traces of chloramphenicol, a product that is not used in North American beekeeping and poses a potential threat to human health. The CFIA issued a recall on blended Chinese honey and products made with Chinese honey. The CFIA also advised manufacturers to discontinue the use of honey from China. A complete list of products that have been recalled is available at: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/recarapp/2002/honprode.shtml>

Live Bee Import Ban

Canada has imposed an import ban on live bees from the continental United States since 1987 under the Honeybee Importation Prohibition Regulations. Imports from Hawaii are permitted. In August 2000, the ban was extended to December 31, 2004. Bees from the continental US are not permitted into the country because of the presence in the U.S. of treatment-resistant Varroa mites and other pests that are deemed by Canada's animal health authorities to pose a danger to the health of bee colonies in Canada.

TARIFFS – – Canada applies no import tariffs to honey.

HONEY REGULATIONS – –

Quality standards, packaging and labeling requirements for honey are laid out in the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Honey Regulations. The full text of the honey regulations is available at: <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-0.4/C.R.C.-c.287/text.html>

CONTAINER SIZES - - -

Canadian honey regulations stipulate the following metric sizes for domestic or imported honey: any net weight up to 150 grams, 250 grams, 375 grams, 500 grams, 750 grams, 1 kg, 1.5 kg, 2kg, 3kg, and 5 kg. For bulk containers: 7 kg, 15kg, 30 kg, or any larger container where net weight is a multiple of 1 kg.

U.S. honey cannot meet Canada #1 or #2 grade if it contains foreign material that would be retained on a U.S. National Bureau of Standards 60 mesh screen. U.S. exporters marketing liquid honey containing a piece of honeycomb in the jar should note this restriction. Exports to Canada must be accompanied by an import declaration filled out by the shipper & the importer is responsible for inspection fees. Copies of the import declaration are available from the Dairy, Fruit & Vegetable Division, Canadian Food Inspection Agency , telephone (613) 225-2342. **Contact:** FAS/Ottawa e-mail: info@usda-canada.com